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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT 50X1-HUM

OPIC Ammunition Depot at Hohenleipisch

VALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 7 August 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

MARKS

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1. On 22 May 1951, two carloads of explosives arrived at the ammunition depot at Hohenleipisch from the U.S.S.R. The ammunition storage bunker and the loading ramp were cordoned off during the unloading process. (1)
2. Ammunition shipments leaving Hohenleipisch by rail between 20 May and 1 June 1951 included:
 - 20 May. Two carloads of 151-mm shells, and 1 carload of 120-mm mortar shells, bound for Koenigsbrueck.
 - 21 May. One carload of 76.2-mm AT shells and 1 carload of boxes with infantry ammunition, bound for Chemnitz.
 - 24 May. One carload of 76.2-mm AT shells and 1 carload of 120-mm mortar shells, bound for Chemnitz.
 - 1 June. Two carloads of undetermined ammunition, bound for Chemnitz-Hilbersdorf.
3. The following motor vehicles were seen between 19 May and 4 June:
 - 19 May. Sedan moving toward Elsterwerda with three officers; trucks hauling ammunition. 50X1-HUM
 - 21 May. Sedan parked in front of the guardhouse at the Waldsiedlung settlement and occupied by several officers.
 - 25 May. Repair shop truck parked in front of the Elsterwerda railroad station. 50X1-HUM
 - 4 June. Truck leaving the ammunition depot. (2)

4. The 105-mm bodies of projectiles were first boiled in a soda lye solution until they were free of grease. After being boiled for about 10 minutes, they were taken out, and taken to the paint shop and, if they were made of pressed steel, they were painted yellow with a top coat of laquer varnish. The bodies were then fitted with the adapter plugs and filled. After the bursting charge was inserted and the bottom screwed in, the projectiles were fitted into cartridge cases by machines, and the fuzes screwed on. The finished shells were packed in boxes and stored in six ammunition bunkers. Some of the empty projectiles delivered to the depot were already provided with a coat of paint. They included 20-mm ammunition with red projectiles with blue paint on their caps; and dark-red 76.2-mm projectiles, sometimes with blue stripes on their caps. All rifle and submachine gun ammunition arrived unpainted.

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Document No. 010

No Change in Class. ☐

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Class. Changed To: TS 3 ①

Auth: NS TC-2

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5. In mid-May [redacted] one Colonel Muratov (fnu), was depot commandant. (3) [redacted] the tanks in Walsiedlung (settlement) had entrained allegedly for shipment to a training grounds on 28 April 1951. [redacted]

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Comments.

- (1) The information refers to the large Soviet ammunition depot, a former German Air Force installation, which frequently received rail shipments of ammunition from the U.S.S.R. [redacted]
- (2) Vehicles of the Soviet Air Force, except for one, which belongs to an unidentified series of the First Gds Mecz Army.
- (3) To date, Major Lavrenski (fnu) has been carried as the depot commandant. Colonel Muratov (fnu) is mentioned for the first time.

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